



NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Greg Risling
Public Information Officer
213-974-3525
grisling@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter:@LADAOoffice

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LAPD Officer Convicted in Perjury Case

A Los Angeles Police Department officer was convicted today for lying under oath during a 2008 drug possession case, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jurors spent less than a day deliberating before finding 40-year-old Manuel Ortiz guilty of one count each of conspiracy and perjury. He's scheduled to be sentenced April 9 when he faces up to three years and eight months in jail.

Ortiz was charged in case BA362872 along with two others, former LAPD Officer Evan Samuel and Officer Richard Amio.

Samuel, 35, and Amio, 34, were both found guilty of conspiracy and perjury charges at trial in 2012 but jurors deadlocked on the charges against Ortiz.

Deputy District Attorney Geoffrey Rendon with the Justice System Integrity Division said that during a preliminary hearing in January 2008 for a defendant in a drug case, Ortiz falsely testified about his involvement in the underlying investigation involving the defendant.

Rendon said the officers lied about certain aspects of the case including the circumstances surrounding the recovery and location of cocaine base and powder found in a carport of an apartment complex.

The drug possession case was dismissed against the defendant after footage from the apartment building's security camera contradicted the sworn testimony of the officers.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.